

Remarks

The Applicants first wish to thank the Examiner for the consideration shown in discussing the case via teleconference in late September 2004.

Claims 1-8, 12-17, and 19-24 were pending in this application. Claims 1, 20, and 24 have been amended. Claim 19 has been cancelled. Accordingly, claims 1-8, 12-17, and 20-24 remain pending. Reconsideration and allowance are requested.

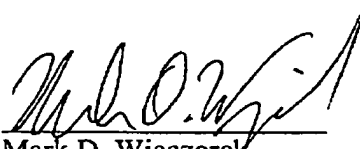
The Examiner has rejected all of the claims due to allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Amendments have been made to the independent claims to obviate this rejection. These amendments follow along the lines of the teleconference, and limit the independent claims to specific examples.

For at least all of the above reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections of the independent claims should be withdrawn. The claims dependent therefrom are submitted therefore to be in allowable form for at least the same reasons.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or advance prosecution of the application, he is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number given below.

No additional fees are believed due for this submission, however, if any fees are required, authorization is hereby given to the Commissioner for Patents to charge the same to Deposit Account No. 50-1187.

Date: Nov. 22, 2004

  
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